## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Julius A. Wayland House is a two and one half story, white wood frame building with a brick foundation, whose design has been influenced by the Stick style. The home sits back about one hundred yards from North Summit Drive at the north end of Girard. It is situated in a large lot and surrounded by trees and shrubs. At one time there was a carriage house on the property.

The house has tall proportions with a high, steep roof, complex plan and irregular silhouette. It has diagonal stickwork, one of the most distinguishing features of the style, between the windows on the second story and in the gables. Fish scale shingles have been used to surface certain parts of the gables and above the second story windows

between the stickwork. The house was constructed with black walnut beams.

There is a one story porch on the east facade with a saddleback roof above what was the main entrance. Stickwork and fish scale shingles have been used in its pediment. The entrance was through a double door. The stairs have been removed and the porch screened in the 1970's. The present owner reports that originally there was a porch across the front of the house. There are two rectangular windows to the south of the porch on the first and second stories. A third window on the second story has been placed above the porch. A smaller window is located near the peak of the gable. The windows are rectangular and have been simply detailed with wide wooden frames. There are string courses connecting the lintels and sills of the first and second story windows. This facade steps back on the south side where there is another entrance with a small porch. There is a window above the porch.

The central feature of the south facade is the projecting wing with the bay windows. The diagonal stickwork has also been repeated below the bay on the first story. The bay on the second story, which extends out slightly from that on the first is supported on thin curved brackets. This bay appears to have been enclosed at a date after the original construction. A rectangular window has been centered in the gable above the bays. To the west of the bay the facade steps back. A one story, rectangular frame addition with a flat roof has been built in this set back. There is a strip of six narrow windows on the

south, and this strip is continued by two windows on the west facade.

Another one story addition with a flat roof has been built onto the west facade to house a connected one car garage. These additions have been carefully constructed to blend with the original building by matching the clapboards and by using a similar window treatment. A small porch over an entrance has highly decorated brackets which appear to have been salvaged from earlier construction. The west facade has a high projection wing with a set back to either side. There are two windows on the second story of the wing with a window in the peak of the roof. A window has also been placed on each of the set backs. The north facade also has a projecting central wing with set backs on either side.

The diagonal stickwork has been continued from the main facade on the easternmost side.

There are two windows on each floor with a smaller window in the peak on the central wing. A window has been placed on each story to the east of the central wing, and there are two windows on the second story to the west.

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1896 - 1912

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Julius Augustus Wayland house in Girard was purchased by the country's most significant nineteenth century Socialist newspaper editor when he moved his presses to Girard in late 1896.

The large frame house later purchased by Wayland was built for John F. Moore of Chicago in W. F. Higgie's Addition to Girard in 1886. This addition featured large lots, wide streets and large expensive homes. Moore, who was planning to move to Girard, was in the lumber business. He let the contract to Allen Brothers in October, 1886. The cost was estimated at \$5,000. In December the Girard Press reported that the framework was almost completed, and by late January the house was being enclosed. The April 30, 1887, issue stated that the Moore family had arrived and would soon occupy their new home. A week later a description of the Moore house was provided. In charge of the outside carpenter work for Allen Brothers was J. W. Ballard, and John R. Garrison had charge of the inside work. The house remained in the Moore ownership only until 1893 when it was sold to Sarah Flint. Then on December 15, 1896, the property was transferred to Etta Bevan Wayland, the wife of Julius A. Wayland.

Julius A. Wayland was born in Versailles, Indiana, in 1854, and there he learned the printing trade. First a Republican, then a Populist, and later a community colony socialist, he eventually became an editor pushing the cause of "scientific" socialism. He was converted to socialism while in Colorado in the early 1890's. In 1893 in Greensburg, Indiana, he began publishing the weekly newspaper Coming Nation, a propaganda voice for "Americanized" socialism. Forced to leave Greensburg, he went to Tennessee where he fostered the establishment of a cooperative community and underwrote much of the expense. The Ruskin Co-operative Community was organized along capitalistic rather than socialistic lines. There was much bickering and dissension and Wayland left in 1895 and went to Kansas City, Missouri. There his new paper, Appeal to Reason, made its first appearance August 31, 1895. At the end of the first year paid circulation had reached only 11,000 and he was losing \$100 an issue. To cut down on expenses, he moved to the small town of Girard, Kansas. By resorting to contests and various circulation boosting techniques, he raised the circulation to 36,000 within a year. By 1900 it was 141,000 and by 1904 it had reached 236,000. Some special issues had runs of almost a million copies. The Appeal printed few academic treatises on socialism. Much of its material was reprinted from the writings of Edward Bellamy, Henry Demarest Lloyd and Herbert Casson and from other reform or left-wing newspapers. The columns written by Wayland had a folksy, home-

There were many paradoxes to Wayland's life and views. He never allowed his socialistic beliefs to interfere with making a quick capitalistic profit. While expressin optimism about the coming of a cooperative commonwealth, he had a very low opinion of the workers who were supposed to effect the new society. From all accounts the workers at the Appeal to Reason printing plant were poorly paid. Efforts to organize and secure better wages led to dismissal. Wayland's home was one of the finest residential properties in

MAJOR BIBLIC	GR LAICAL REFEREN	CES	
Girard <u>Press</u> , Apr. Dec. 31, 1896.	1, Oct. 28, Dec. 23, 1886;	; Jan. 27, Apr. 30, May 7	' <b>,</b> 188 <b>7</b> ;
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Wayland, Julius A., House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

#### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name:

Mrs. George H. Detjen

Street & Number:

308½ East 17th Street

City, Town:

Baxter Springs

State:

Kansa**s** 

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Wayland, Julius A., House

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#### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

Girard, and he was reportedly driven to the office by a coachman in a rubber tired rig behind a team of matched sorrels.

Eugene V. Debs became a contributing editor of the Appeal and on a number of occasions

spent some time in Girard as Wayland's quest.

Wayland's wife died in an automobile accident in 1911 and he committed suicide in his Girard home on November 11, 1912. At the time he was facing federal charges for circulating through the mails certain newspaper stories about a federal official, and he was also reported to be in poor health. The pending charges are not thought to have been a causative factor as he had faced similar charges before.

Julius A. Wayland was not a great socialist theorist and some of the other socialists of the day were appalled by his practices, but during the 1890's and 1900's he had a tremendous influence on the small, growing socialist movement in the United States. The <a href="Appeal to Reason">Appeal to Reason</a> was the largest and most influential socialist newspaper in the country. Wayland has been described by some as the most influential socialist editor of all times in the United States.

The Wayland house is significant for the work of its owner, for his role in the nation's social and political arenas at the turn of the century. It is one of a few examples of the Stick style in Kansas and is exceptional since it was built only a short time after the popularity of the style in the East.

#### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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"Wayland the Socialist," Topeka Capital, Feb. 7, 1904.

